

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EB-NLPAZDRAL:LMP

APPROVED BY EB - NLPAZDRAL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

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FOR ASST SECRETARY ENDERS

FOL REPEAT STATE 076220 SENT ACTION EC BRUSSELS APR 4

QTE

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E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: EAID, EAGR

SUBJECT: EEC MEMBERSHIP IN FOOD AID CONVENTION (FAC)

1. AT LONDON MEETINGS FEBRUARY OF INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL AND FOOD AID COMMITTEE GENERAL AGREEMENT REACHED TO EXTEND BY PROTOCOLS FOR ADDITIONAL YEAR (TO JUNE 30, 1976) BOTH THE WHEAT TRADE AND FOOD AID CONVENTIONS (TOGETHER CONSTITUTING THE INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT 1971). EEC REPRESENTATIVE WAS ABLE TO SUPPORT EXTENSION WHEAT TRADE CONVENTION BUT, AS ALSO HAPPENED LAST YEAR, WAS NOT IN POSITION TO COMMIT EEC WITH RESPECT TO FAC. THEREFORE TEXT OF FAC EXTENDING PROTOCOL DOES NOT MENTION EEC. THERE IS HOWEVER PROVISION FOR IT AND MEMBER COUNTRIES TO SIGN (SIGNATURE PERIOD RUNS THROUGH APRIL 14; U.S. IS DEPOS-
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TARY GOVERNMENT), SHOULD POSITIVE DECISION BE REACHED IN

TIME. IF NOT, AS WAS CASE LAST YEAR, INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION OR PROVISIONAL APPLICATION CAN STILL BE DEPOSITED BY JUNE 18 TO MAINTAIN UNINTERRUPTED EEC MEMBERSHIP.

2. U.S. AND A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE MADE CONTINUED ADHERENCE TO FAC CONTINGENT ON ALL OTHER PARTIES DOING LIKEWISE. WHEREAS LAST YEAR, THERE WERE SUBSTANTIAL DOUBTS WHETHER EEC COULD REACH INTERNAL AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE IN FAC, WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY STRONG OPPOSITION

THIS TIME AROUND. WE ASSUME THAT DELAY IN APPROVING EXTENSION FOR ONE YEAR IS PRIMARILY ADMINISTRATIVE.

3. PLEASE ADVISE US PRESENT STATUS EEC DECISION-MAKING ON THIS MATTER, WHEN APPROVAL LIKELY AND/OR ANY PROBLEMS.

INGERSOLL

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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